

# ***BINEGAR PARISH COUNCIL***

Minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2015 in the Memorial Hall at 7:30 pm

**Present:** Jon Abbott, Richard Higgins (Chair), Philip Blatchford (for items 5.8 and 5.12), Cath Law, John Scadding and David Stone.

**In attendance:** Diane Abbott (Clerk), Councillors John Carter and Harvey Siggs.

1	<p><b>Apologies for absence</b> The meeting <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept apologies for absence from Phil Roberts.</p>	
2	<p><b>Chair’s announcements</b> There were no announcements.</p>	
3	<p><b>Declarations of interest</b> There were no declarations of interest from Councillors.</p>	
4	<p><b>Minutes</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Minutes of the 7 July 2015 be signed as a correct record.</p>	
5	<p><b>Matters arising from the Minutes</b></p> <p><b>5.1 Binegar Cemetery - Proposal to build a lych gate</b> Jon informed the meeting that he and Philip had visited the planning and conservation officers at Mendip District Council. The meeting accepted Jon’s recommendation to take the proposal forward as an “authorised development” (that would not require planning consent).</p> <p><b>5.2 Finger sign-posts</b> The Clerk stated that she had asked a second company for a quotation for the work. After discussion, the meeting agreed that refurbishment should be done professionally. The meeting <b>RESOLVED</b> that the Clerk should accept the lower of the two tenders and arrange for the works to be done.</p> <p><b>5.3 Highways</b> It was noted that the following works had been completed: pothole repairs on Binegar Lane; overgrown hedges and shrubs cut back on Highcroft Lane; gully on A37 cleared; sightlines improved on Whitnell and Portway Lane junctions; and streetlight repaired on Neville’s Batch.</p> <p>The Clerk undertook to report again clearing surface water drains, Kings Lane.</p> <p><b>5.4 Planning applications</b> <b>2014/0045/FUL – Turner’s Court traveller’s site – reported breach of conditions</b> The Chair stated there was no further progress to report. Cllr Carter undertook to progress the matter with Mendip District Council.</p> <p><b>5.5 Ownership of <i>Neville’s Batch</i></b> Jon reported that Somerset had acknowledged the application for Village Green status but did not expect to consider it for 2-3 years. After discussion, Jon undertook to explore and progress any other avenues available to the Council.</p> <p><b>5.6 Emborough pond</b> The chair informed the meeting that an enforcement notice had been issued to the owner to remove the causeway. It was agreed to close this item.</p>	<p>JA</p> <p>DA</p> <p>DA</p> <p>JC</p> <p>JA</p>

	<p><b>5.7 Clarke's Pool</b> John and Jon reported on the successful clearance of Clarke's Pool. Richard thanked them for their work and informed the meeting that letters of thanks had been received from residents. The meeting agreed that a payment be made to Mr Rich for fuel used in transporting the dredged spoil. Cath raised a safety concern about the fence and Richard undertook to carry out a risk assessment.</p> <p><b>5.8 Fallopi japonica treatment at Emborough</b> Philip reported that a second treatment had been carried out and that he would continue to monitor further growth but only charge for one treatment. He was invited to submit his bill.</p> <p><b>5.9 Binegar playing field boundary fence</b> The Clerk stated that four tenders had been received for this work. Following consideration, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept the lowest tender from Southern Fencing. The Council asked the Clerk to organise the works.</p> <p><b>5.10 Somerset &amp; Dorset Railway Trust 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibition</b> The clerk informed the meeting that the Trust's exhibition would be staged in the Memorial Hall on 11-12 June 2016. It was agreed to close this item.</p> <p><b>5.11 Pedestrian controlled crossing of A37</b> John relayed a message from Phil who had met Mr Robinson, owner of Mary Rose Cottage. Phil was told that an agreement on compensation had been reached with Somerset County Council removing the obstacle to laying the crossing. Richard undertook to report this information to the Councillor Fothergill, Head of Roads, at the County.</p> <p><b>5.12 Refurbishment of large multiplay</b> Philip reported that it was not possible to reuse wood from the demolished apparatus to build the replacement. New timber would be required. The Clerk informed the meeting that she had received one quote for timber and sundries for less than £500. After discussion, the meeting <b>RESOLVED</b> that authority be given to Philip to spend up to £500 on new timber and sundries.</p> <p><b>5.13 Get up to speed internet and computer skills programme</b> The clerk informed the meeting that an advertisement had been placed in the next Parish magazine in order to ascertain interest to progress further.</p> <p><b>5.14 Flood prevention</b> The Chair stated that residents had been asked to clear the main culvert in an article in the Parish Magazine.</p> <p>Jon reported that Highways had agreed to dig the ditch at Roemead Lane junction with Binegar Bottom. He undertook to arrange a site meeting to progress the work. He awaited further advice on responsibility for the culvert under Woodside Terrace footpath.</p> <p>John informed the meeting that he had spoken to the owner of the Post Office regarding clearance of the ditch and that they were happy for work to take place. After discussion, John and Jon volunteered to do this work.</p> <p><b>5.15 Somerset County Council Chair's award for services to the community</b> The clerk informed the meeting that she would be completing the nomination.</p>	<p>JA RH</p> <p>PB</p> <p>DA</p> <p>RH</p> <p>DA</p> <p>DA</p> <p>JA</p> <p>JS</p>
6	<p><b>Local government reports</b> Cllr Harvey Siggs reported on County Council issues. He suggested the Council prepare a plan to clear the culvert in readiness for a bid against future flood funds. He also drew attention to a forthcoming health and wellbeing fund. The Clerk undertook to obtain papers from Cllr. Siggs' office.</p>	<p>DA</p>

7	<p><b>Police reports</b> There was no report.</p>	
8	<p><b>Planning</b>  <b>2015/1764/FUL – Proposed house - land adjacent to Holy Trinity Church</b>  Following discussion, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to recommend refusal of this application.</p> <p><b>2015/1830/OTS – Proposed house - 5 Dalleston, Turners Court Lane</b>  Following discussion, it was <b>RESOLVED</b> to recommend refusal of this application.</p>	
9	<p><b>Dementia aware and dementia friendly community</b>  Cath reported that a meeting had been held to progress how to become a Dementia Friendly Community. It was proposed to register with the <i>Dementia Action Alliance</i>. An action plan had been drawn up and a Cath suggested a public meeting in November to inform residents and businesses. Cath undertook to take this project forward with the Clerk.</p>	CL
10	<p><b>Financial Matters</b>  <b>10.1 Financial Control</b>  The meeting noted a summary of budget spending and variances for the Council's accounts.</p> <p><b>10.2 Agricultural land rent</b>  The meeting noted that bills for agricultural land rent had been raised</p> <p><b>10.3 Receipts since last report</b>  The meeting noted the following receipts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• J E Emery – Emery, Selway and Brittain - £250.00</li> <li>• HMRC – VAT refund - £1,765.39</li> </ul> <p><b>10.4 Standing order payments since last report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primrose Garden Maintenance – August payment - £633.60</li> <li>• Mrs D Abbott – July salary – confidential</li> <li>• Mrs D Abbott – August salary – confidential</li> </ul> <p><b>10.5 Cheque payments were authorised to</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Andy Wrintmore Memorials – cemetery repairs - £920.00</li> <li>• Grant Thornton – Annual return - £120.00</li> <li>• Play Safety – ROSPA inspection - £124.80</li> <li>• Valley Sawmills – Wood large multi play - £371.81 (Playground account)</li> <li>• Diane Abbott – Office and Computer – May to Sept - 2015 - £40.00</li> <li>• Diane Abbott – Expenses – 24 x 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Stamps - £12.96</li> <li>• Binegar Memorial Hall – Hall hire deposit for families day - £37.50 (Playground account)</li> <li>• Cash – float for Village Day - £52.00 – (Playground account)</li> </ul>	
11	<p><b>Mendip District Council – Consultation on Local Plan, part II, sites and policies</b>  The meeting discussed the importance of the local plan. Cath and Jon undertook to complete the self-assessment on the special characteristics of Gurney Slade and Binegar. The chair encouraged members to attend the consultation sessions to be held by Mendip District Council.</p>	CL All
12	<p><b>Verges and hedges</b>  The meeting discussed concerns raised by a parishioner about the untidy look of roadside weeds. Jon reported that Somerset Highways considered verges were the responsibility of property owners. The meeting agreed this was a vexed matter asking how much parishioners could expect of the Parish Council and vice versa. The chair asked members to consider what the scope of a project might be and how it might be made into a success.</p>	All

13	<p><b>New fencing at Casa Mia</b></p> <p>The Chair reported complaints of a sight line hazard at the junction of Binegar Lane and the A37 from a newly erected fencing at Casa Mia. After discussion, it was agreed to report the hazard to Somerset Highways and advise the resident of this.</p>	DA
14	<p><b>Tape Lane – mud on road</b></p> <p>It was agreed to defer this item until Phil Roberts was present.</p>	
15	<p><b>Binegar Playing Fields Group</b></p> <p>In Philip's absence, it was agreed to defer this item.</p>	
16	<p><b>Training for councillors and clerk</b></p> <p>The chair reported that no new training was on offer from <i>Somerset Association of Local Councils</i>. Cath requested training on health and well-being and Jon on planning. The clerk undertook to investigate if Mendip District Council offered such training.</p>	DA
17	<p><b>Events Attended</b></p> <p>There were no reports.</p>	
18	<p><b>Highways and rights of way</b></p> <p>There were no reports.</p>	
19	<p><b>Correspondence received</b></p> <p>Jon stated that he had received correspondence from James Heapey, MP.</p>	
20	<p><b>Items for the next or a future agenda</b></p> <p>Jon requested the Memorial Hall car park extension be included on the next agenda.</p>	
21	<p><b>Next meeting and future dates</b></p> <p>The Council noted the next meeting would be on 6 October 2015 at 7 30 pm in the Memorial Hall.</p> <p>2015: 3 November, 1 December; 2016: 2 February, 1 March, 5 April, 3 May, 7 June, 5 July, 6 September, 4 October, 1 November, 6 December</p>	

The Chair closed the meeting at 9 13pm.